

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 04207 160120Z
ACTION EA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 04207

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF, JA
SUBJECT: JAPANESE CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDOCHINA REFUGEE RELIEF

REF: (A) STATE 62146 (B) TOKYO 1318

1. PURSUANT TO REFTEL (A), CONSULAR OFFICER ASKED HITOSHI MISE, JAPAN'S UNHCR REP, ABOUT JAPAN'S JFY 78 (APRIL 1, 1978, TO MARCH 31, 1979) CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDOCHINA REFUGEE RELIEF. MISE SAID BUDGET BILL, INCLUDING PLANNED CONTRIBUTION LEVEL ALREADY REPORTED IN REF (B), NOW PASSED BY LOWER HOUSE.

2. BUDGET EXPECTED TO BE ANNOUNCED APRIL 7, 1978. MISE ANTICIPATES RECEIVING THE 385 MILLION YEN AND THE \$80,000 U.S. CURRENCY FROM FINANCE MINISTRY ON APRIL 7. FINMIN ALSO EXPECTED TO DISBURSE APPROPRIATION OF 150 MILLION YEN DIRECTLY TO JAPAN RED CROSS.

3. MISE SAID THAT SINCE DECEMBER 7, 1977, GOJ HAD AUTHORIZED BOAT CASE REFUGEES, TEMPORARILY IN JAPAN SAFE HAVEN, TO ACCEPT EMPLOYMENT WHILE AWAITING PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT OVERSEAS. OCCUPATION POSSIBILITIES RANGE FROM MANUAL, ASSEMBLY LINE, AND OTHER UNSKILLED LABOR TO SECRETARIAL WORK, BUT ANY SUCCESS IN FINDING SUCH TEMPORARY
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EMPLOYMENT EXTREMELY LIMITED AT BEST.

4. DURING CONGEN CALL ON DIRECTOR GENERAL NAGAO YOSHIDA, IMMIGRATION BUREAU, JUSTICE MINISTRY, LATTER RAISED REFUGEE MATTER. CONGEN THANKED DIRGEN FOR JAPAN'S ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING TEMPORARY SAFE HAVEN IN JAPAN FOR THOSE BOAT CASE REFUGEES AND RECITED IPP 77 AND IPP 78

STATISTICS ON RESETTLEMENT FROM JAPAN TO THE U.S.
WHILE EMPHASIZING OUR GRATITUDE FOR GOJ COOPERATION AND
ASSISTANCE WITH INDOCHINESE RESETTLEMENT PROBLEM, CONGEN
STATED (AS HE HAD ON PREVIOUS INFORMAL OCCASIONS) THAT WE
SHOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME ANYTHING DIRGEN FELT GOJ COULD
DO TO ENABLE A PORTION OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES TO REMAIN
AND SETTLE IN JAPAN. MANSFIELD

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